

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

MAGI # 0502853506

CT-285

Calvert Cliffs S.P.

DNR-2

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

F. Helb Barn

AND/OR COMMON

Calvert Cliffs State Park Barn

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

(Now H.G. Trueman Road, Maryland Route 765)

East side of Maryland Rtes 2 and 4, south of Lusby

CITY, TOWN
Lusby

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

— VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Calvert County

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

—DISTRICT

☒ PUBLIC

—OCCUPIED

☒ AGRICULTURE

—MUSEUM

—BUILDING(S)

—PRIVATE

☒ UNOCCUPIED

—COMMERCIAL

—PARK

☒ STRUCTURE

—BOTH

—WORK IN PROGRESS

—EDUCATIONAL

—PRIVATE RESIDENCE

—SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

—ENTERTAINMENT

—RELIGIOUS

—OBJECT

—IN PROCESS

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

—GOVERNMENT

—SCIENTIFIC

—BEING CONSIDERED

—YES: UNRESTRICTED

—INDUSTRIAL

—TRANSPORTATION

—NO

—MILITARY

—OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Maryland Department of Natural Resources

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Tawes Building, Taylor Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21401

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC Calvert County Court House

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street (MD 765)

CITY, TOWN

Prince Frederick

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

—FEDERAL —STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

CT-285
7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

—EXCELLENT
 —GOOD
☒ FAIR

—DETERIORATED
 —RUINS
 —UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED
 —ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
 —MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The barn at Calvert Cliffs is a bank barn, its upper story constructed of wood (frame sheathed in vertical planking), and its lower story constructed of brick and covered with horizontal planking on its entrance facade. At the gable ends of the building the brickwork is obscured by a thin veneer of cement applied in recent years presumably to mitigate against increased damage due to moisture retained by the soil of the surrounding slope. (Park rangers interviewed about this structure have indicated that drainage at this location has been and continues to be a severe problem, causing the bricks, especially at the southwest corner and along the southwest half of the western gable end to crumble and the mortar to chip away and fall out leaving many joints entirely unpainted.

On the gable ends the brick pattern is five rows of stretchers sandwiched between rows of all-headers. On the western elevation are located two ventilator windows about equal distances from the corners of the buildings. There is a uniform break in the sheathing on the west facade above the level of the eaves. Boards of a shorter length are fitted into the gable area above. There are minimal spaces between the planks where the wood has weathered, thus allowing for increased ventilation for the drying (and curing) of the tobacco.

The eastern gable end is similarly detailed but at this juncture, the barn slopes into the hillside and there is no room for window openings. The planking is in a considerably advanced state of dilapidation on this side of the barn; some of the planks have been replaced in a haphazard fashion, resulting in a patched-over effect which is further exaggerated by ragged edges and bowing out of the majority of the lower planks.

The southern elevation which constitutes the principal entrance facade is punctuated by two major door openings, large sliding doors several feet wide and consisting of horizontal wooden planks mounted on rollers in metal tracks of galvanized aluminum. Some of the boards on the northwest portal are pried loose on one side, admitting access even though the door no longer operates properly. Below the planking is a brick foundation which is six or seven courses deep on this facade. From the northwest corner this foundation then increases to a depth of fifteen courses at the southwest corner of the building.

The entire wooden superstructure overhangs the brick basement level by four to five feet on the southern facade. This wide overhang provides ample shelter for equipment (or animals) and provides protected access for the three principal doorways which open into storage areas, formerly stalls. These openings are presently boarded shut with vertical planking which contrasts with the horizontal sheathing of the remainder of the facade. At the southwest corner, about 6 feet above ground level, is a dated brick (about twice as large as its neighboring bricks and inscribed with the legend "Built by F. Helb 1881"). The sill supporting the overhang is pegged.

See continuation sheet

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES	1881	BUILDER/ARCHITECT
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The barn at Calvert Cliffs State Park is an exceptional example of bank barn construction in an area of Maryland where such barns are seldom found. The bank barn type has more provenance in Western Maryland approaching the Pennsylvania border.

This building demonstrated notable interpretation of the type in brick and frame. It features an unusual dated brick in the southwest corner of the structure about six feet above ground level bearing the legend: "BUILT BY F. HELB, 1881".

RECOMMENDATIONS

Calvert Cliffs State Park located on Routes 2 and 4, fourteen miles south of Prince Frederick along the shores of Calvert County is rich in archeological resources. The cliffs, formed over 15 million years ago, hold an abundant variety of fossils. Park facilities and services provide appropriate interpretive activities for the public which include hiking, fossil hunting and fishing.

With regard to the Park's architectural and historical merit, however, with the exception of the F. Helb Bank Barn (DNR-2) the park holds no buildings of significance. Consideration by park personnel should be given to the adaptive reuse of this agrarian structure. The space could be converted readily into an informal visitor/information center with displays of local archeological artifacts. These exhibits would thus complement the now existing activities at the park. Since Calvert Cliffs State Park is scheduled to continue as a limited-use day park, the appearance of the interior barn space should remain agrarian. Thus cost for this rehabilitation could be kept to a minimum.

The Dixon cemetery (CT-294) although not within the boundaries of Calvert Cliffs State Park has been maintained by park personnel. Because of the antiquity of this family cemetery, if this extra landscape maintenance can continue, it should be by DNR.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Ellen Coxe, Historic Sites Surveyor and Bridget Deale, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

August 1979

STREET & NUMBER

21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

269-2438

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

CONTINUATION SHEET

F. Helb Barn/Calvert Cliffs S.P. Barn

ITEM NUMBER

7

PAGE

2

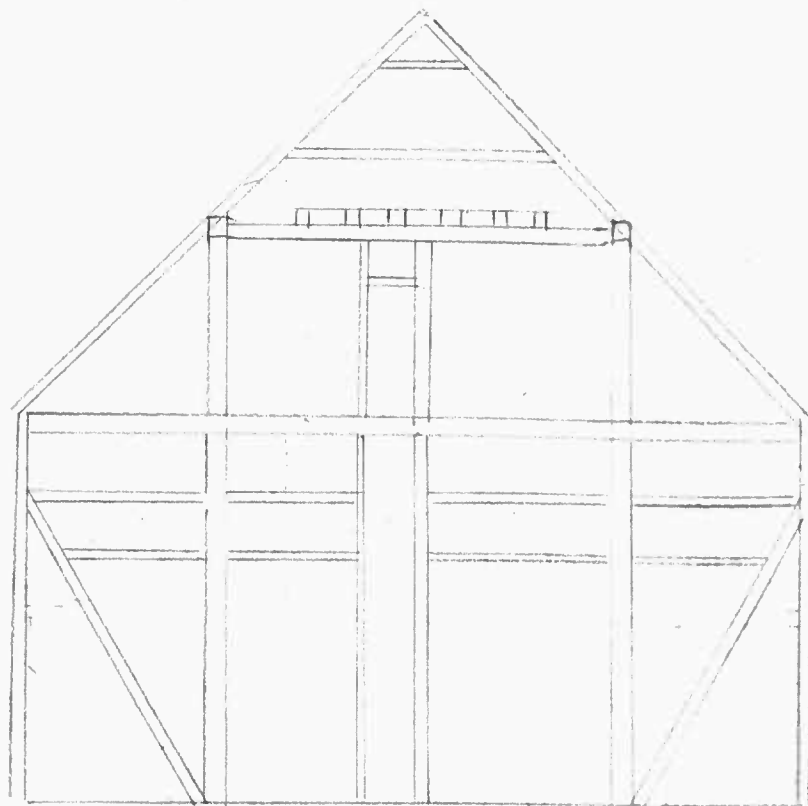
The barn is presently covered with a standing seam tin roof which, while reasonably suitable and certainly economically more practical than the original material, should, since DNR is considering re-roofing, be placed by a wooden shake roof.

The interior of the barn is characterized by a six-bay system. The two principal bays are the center two (see diagram), of which the vertical supports are double mortised into the lower tie beam and pegged on both sides. The four principal vertical supports are on central posts with systems of cross bracing which stop at the level of the top of the topmost tie beam. Additional supporting purlins are necessary for the unusual length of the barn. Bracing is mortised and pegged throughout the structure and replacement pieces have been inserted, mostly in the area of new floor boards. These planks are about ten inches wide, and for the most part are original.

The framing of each room of the barn carries some transverse poles, plus a couple of random beams also apparently used as supports for hanging tobacco. Two rooms have been recently closed to accommodate storage of park equipment and spare timbers used for repairs elsewhere in the park.

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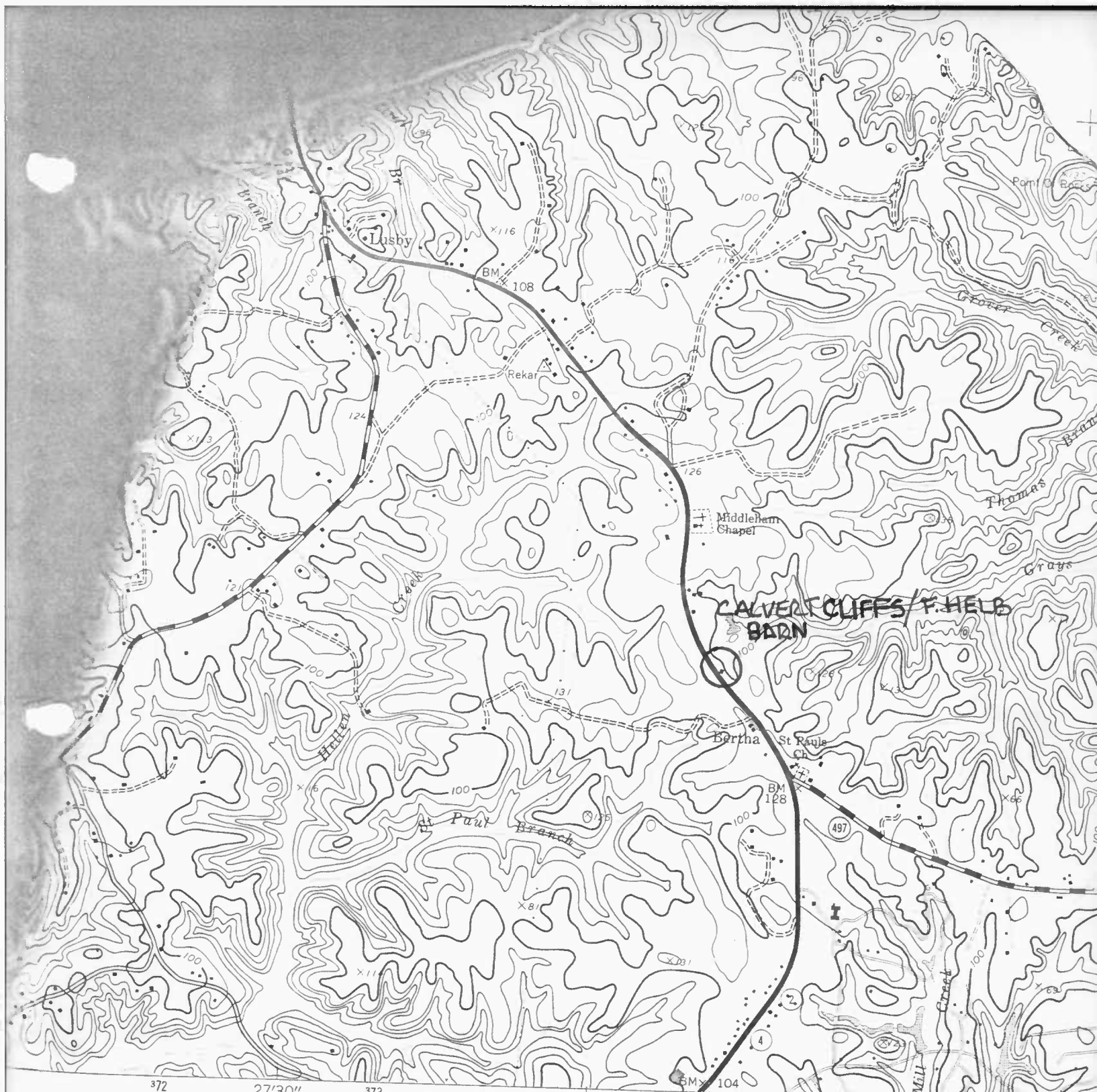
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CT-285 F. HELB BARN
SECTION

EKC
iv. 79

CT-285



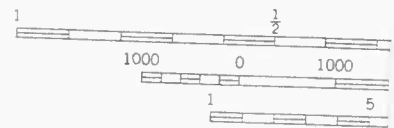
372 27'30" 373

(SOLOMONS ISLAND)
SOLOMONS 4.3 MI. 5760 IV SW
SCALE 1:24 000

CT-285

375 376 25'

★
MN
GN
8°
142 MILS
0°54'
16 MILS



CC
NATIONAL
SHORELINE SHOWN RE
THE ME

U.S.G.S. MAP
COVE POINT, MD.

UTM GRID AND 1974 MAGNETIC NORTH
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



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F. HELB Barn, Calvert Cliffs State
Park

South elevation

April 1979 E. Coxe



CT-285

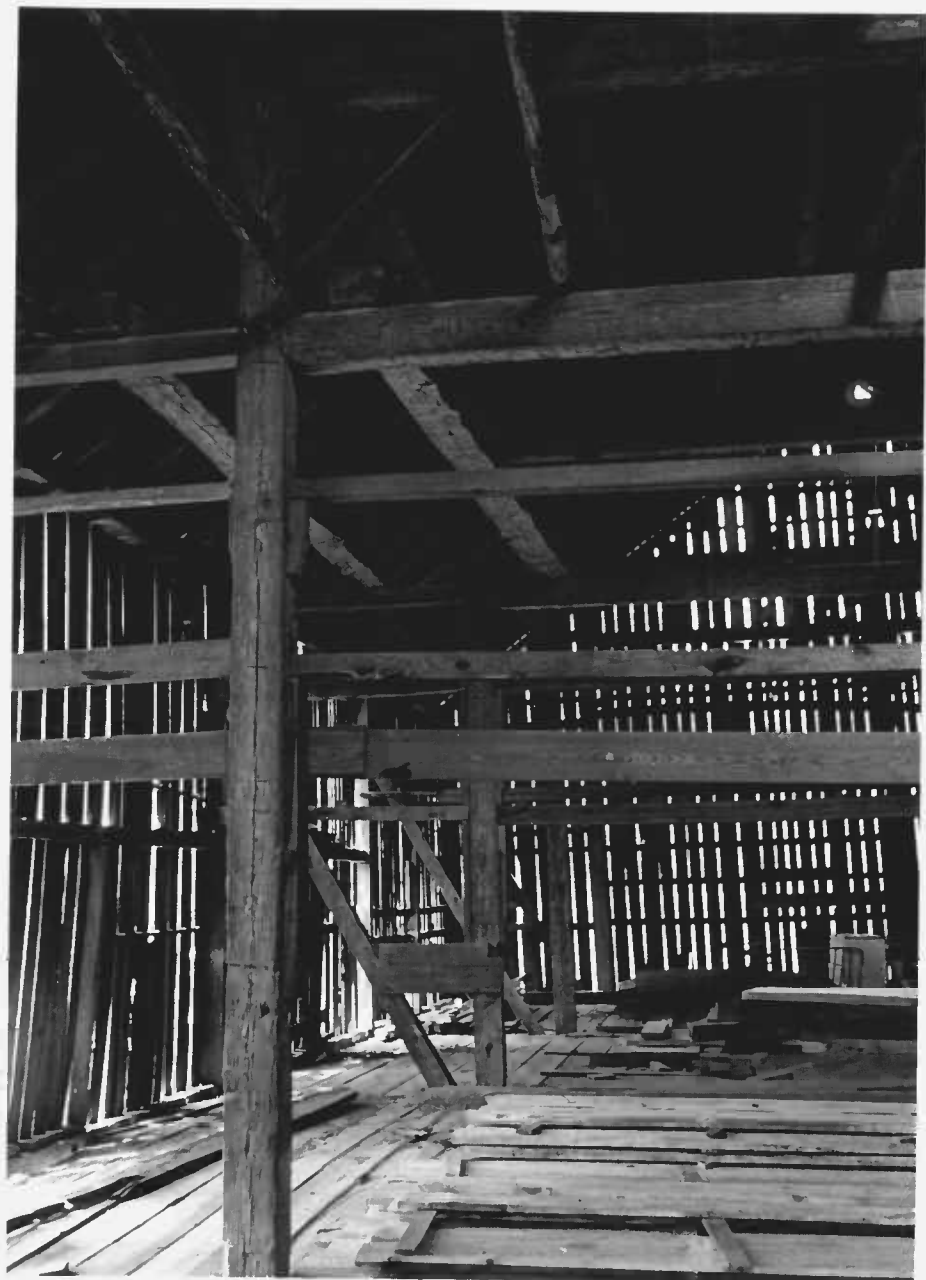
F. HELB Barn, Clavert Cliffs
State Park

Dated brick, southwest corner
April 1979 E. Coxe



F. HELB BARN
Calvert Cliffs State Park

Interior, middle bay showing
cross beams and pegging
April 1979 E. Coxe



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F. HELB BARN
Calvert Cliffs State Park

Interior
April 1979 E. Coxe